

Security Information

31 July 1953

PSB Support Activities
(July 1953)

1. The Board held five meetings during July. Discussions of the Board which affect PSB numbered plans^{4/5} are reported below under the plan number. In addition, the Board considered several other subjects of interest to CIA including:

- a. Food Offer to East Germany - at the meeting of July 1, Mr. Dulles proposed the possibility of an offer of food to the East Germans, a subject already under discussion in connection with the implementation of NSC 158. An interdepartmental panel under direction of the State Department pursued the matter with results as noted throughout the world.
- b. Free World Congress - in view of the adverse foreign reaction reported last month, the Board on July 1 decided to postpone the idea until next spring or summer.
- c. "Book-burning" - on July 1 the Board noted the serious effects on world opinion produced by reports of "book-burning" in connection with USIS libraries and agreed to recommend to the Department of State that such libraries be conducted in accordance with American principles of openness with respect to freedom of reading. The Board also agreed to recommend that a public statement to this effect be made.
- d. Volunteer Freedom Corps. - the Board noted the unfavorable responses from the allies which were consulted and agreed to wait until after the German elections before pushing the matter further.

2. Many of the panels were active during the month. Summarized results

follow:

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a. D-23 (Southeast Asia): A revised version of the plan was to have been presented to the Board by the State Department at its meeting on July 29th, but was withdrawn. With the concurrence of the member agencies ^{the} State Department sponsored addition to the introductory sentence ^{of} ~~concerning~~ ^(operation in SE Asia using Thailand as a base) Phase II, has been issued. This revision states that before Phase II becomes operable it will be reviewed and the views sought of the appropriate American Embassies and of several foreign governments.

b. D-33 (Doctrinal Warfare): A revised version of this plan was circulated at the request of the State Department and was approved by the DCI.

c. D-38 (Western Europe): DCI, on July 13th, approved the ^{draft} ~~plan~~ of PSB D-38, dated June 30, 1953. Certain revisions were ^{subsequently} ~~consequently~~ offered at the request of the State Department; these ^{are} being cleared with the Western European Division and the PP Staffs.

d. D-43 (Plan for Exploitation of Dissidence in the Soviet Bloc USSR Armed Forces): This plan was submitted to the Board for approval at its meeting on July 15, 1953 and was disposed of by memorandum to the parties directly involved.

e. D-45 (Interim U.S. Psychological Plan for Exploitation of Unrest in Satellite Europe): An interdepartmental panel under the direction of Mr. [REDACTED] of the PSB Staff held several meetings during the month to produce a coordinated effort in support of the plan. Weekly progress reports have been furnished DCI for each Board meeting by [REDACTED] EE/CPP.

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f. D-46 (Use of American Influence in Support of U.S. Objectives in Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos): The latest draft of this plan dated July 6th, 1953, was thoroughly reviewed by the PP Staffs, the FE Division and the WE Division, and a memorandum for the Acting Director of the PSB outlining CIA's comments was furnished to the PSB Staff on July 22.

g. D-47 (Status Report on the National Psychological Effort as of June 30, 1953 and Progress Report of the PSB): This report, which will be furnished to the National Security Council, was approved by the PSB Board at its meeting on July 29th. The CIA portion, prepared by PP Operations is contained in Annex D of the PSB Report.

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